

**APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR ASSEMBLING A CUSHION
INTO AN AIR BAG MODULE**

5 ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

10 The subject invention is an apparatus and
method for installing a cushion into a cover to
provide for a uniform and consistent thickness of
cushion between an inflator/horn assembly and the
cover such that variation in the amount of force
applied to the cover is minimized. The apparatus
for installing the cushion to the cover includes a
base for supporting the cover, a housing defining a
15 cavity and having an upper and a lower platform, an
air bag housing and a mock inflator attached to a
piston. The method includes the steps of attaching
the cushion assembly to a mock inflator, securing
the cover, compacting the cushion into the cover and
20 around the mock inflator, such that the cushion
fills the cavity of the cover; then removing the
mock inflator from the cushion to form a cavity
within the cushion for the inflator/horn assembly.